



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: August 15, 2016 – Business Meeting
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Stevens, Vice Chair C. Woodbury, Clerk Hicks, Members and G. Woodbury and Pepe and Administrator Gaudette.

At 6:10 p.m. Chairman Stevens called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed for longtime resident Mr. Kenneth Wheeler who passed away on July 23rd. He will be deeply missed.

Minutes:

Business Meeting of July 11 & Workshop of July 18, 2016

A motion to approve the Business Meeting of July 11 & Workshop of July 18, 2016 (Hicks/G. Woodbury) passed 4/0. Mr. Pepe abstained.

Citizen Input

Kurt Nordquist, Gayle Dr. asked the Board to offer leftover pavement millings to residents of Spencer. The Administrator advised him that a policy is already in place.

Bill Shemeth, Ash St., suggested the Board consider inducting Mr. Wheeler into Leadership Hall at the Special Town Meeting.

Mr. Shemeth:

- Would like to have millings for O’Gara and Bemis Parks.
- Noted that Parks & Rec plans to expand the summer concert series.
- Offered his sincerest thanks to the Police and Fire Departments.

Communications:

First Responders/Public Safety Recognition Discussion

Mr. Stevens said the Board is working to recognize the service of our Police Department and all First Responders. In addition to blue bulbs and lapel pins, there is a plan to expand the Annual Fire Department Pancake Breakfast to include the Police and the Rescue Squad.

New Business:

Action Item: Vote on One-day Alcohol License for the Fraternal Order of Eagles Rice-O-Rama Bike Show/Swap Meeting on September 11th at the Spencer Fairgrounds

Dan Hayes and Bob Leduc with the Fraternal Order of Eagles were present to request a One-day Alcohol License for the Rice-O-Rama event. The same procedure that was used last year will be in effect. All necessary documentation has been submitted.

A motion to approve the One-day Alcohol License for Robert Leduc, with the Fraternal Order of Eagles for the Rice-O-Rama Bike Show/Swap Meeting on September 11th at the Spencer Fairgrounds (G. Woodbury/C. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Schedule Location and Marking of Town Boundary Markers in Accordance with MGL Chapter 42 § 2

Administrator Gaudette reported that every five years members of the Board of Selectmen are required to locate and inspect boundaries of the Town. A date needs to be scheduled and abutting Towns notified. Steve Tyler will be asked to participate.

Old Business:

Action Item: Policy Adoption: Local Community Addiction Advisory Committee

Mr. Gaudette noted that two additional members were added to increase the membership to seven. Police Officers will receive training that will assist them in working with students. Meetings and presentations will take place throughout the year.

A motion to adopt the Charge of the Local Community Addiction Advisory Committee (Hicks G. Woodbury) passed 5/0.

Action Item: Policy Adoption: Police Department Social Media Policy

A motion adopt the Police Department Social Media Policy (C. Woodbury/Hicks) passed 5/0.

Discussion: Browning Pond as a Great Pond and Access

Chairman Stevens reported there has been ongoing discussion relative to Browning Pond access since the installation of the Treasure Valley gate has resulted in limited access for the public.

There was discussion on the status of a Great Pond classification. Mr. Stevens mentioned that Treasure Valley has accepted Browning Pond's Great Pond status.

A motion to ask the Administrator to write a letter to the Attorney General's Office for determination on whether or not a Great Pond must offer public access (Hicks/Pepe) passed 5/0.

Mike Toomey offered to provide Mr. Gaudette with information on State Regulations as they relate to Great Ponds.

Town Administrator's Report:

Fall Special Town Meeting Update:

Mr. Gaudette reported he will begin planning for the STM in the fall. He noted that new State regulations this year allow free cash to be spent prior to having it certified. Towns must make an annual request to the DOR for certification.

New Town Moderator William Shemeth said he wants to provide information on Town Meetings as quickly as possible to the public.

Board Liaison Reports

Worcester County Selectmen's Association Appointment

Board members will discuss in September and determine if any are interested in being appointed as a member of the Worcester County Selectmen's Association.

Selectmen's Appointment to Local Community Addiction Advisory (Opioid) Committee

A motion to appoint Gary Woodbury as a member of the Local Community Addiction Advisory Committee (Hicks/Pepe) passed 5/0.

Citizen Input

Mike Toomey said opening access to Browning Pond to fishermen will likely result in an increase in economic stimulation for Spencer.

Board Member and Staff Comments

Mr. Pepe noted there are several committees working hard to make improvements on behalf of the Town. He also mentioned that the event at the Abbey Brewery was a huge success.

Mr. C. Woodbury has noticed that Verizon and National Grid are slowing down with their efforts to remove double poles.

Mr. Gaudette informed the Board that Town Clerk Laura Torti came in on a Sunday to provide a birth certificate to a resident trying to go on cruise that day, without which he would not have been able to board the ship. The Board offered their appreciation to Ms. Torti.

Request for Executive Session under Mass General Laws, Chapter 30A, §21(a), ¶2, to discuss preparations for contract negotiations with non-union personnel.

At 7:42 p.m. a motion to meet in Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, § 21 (a), ¶2, to discuss preparations for contract negotiations with non-union personnel (Pepe/Hicks) passed with a roll call vote: G. Woodbury-yes, C. Woodbury -yes, Stevens-yes, Hicks-yes.

Mr. Stevens announced the meeting may reconvene in open session.

At 8:52 pm the Board reconvened to inform the public that they came to an agreement for a 3-year contract for Police Chief Darrin.

A motion to approve Police Chief Darrin's contract for a 3-year term through January 31, 2019 (C. Woodbury/R. Hicks) passed 5/0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials

Local Community Addiction Advisory (Opioid) Committee
Police Dept. Social Media Policy
Police Chief Darrin's Contract